



## Ninth African Development Forum

Innovative Financing  
for Africa's  
Transformation

Marrakech, Morocco  
12-16 October 2014

### **Remittances in Financing Development in Africa**

#### **Lesson learnt from North Africa**

**Side event jointly organized by UNECA and ESCWA**

**13 October 2014**

### **Information Note and Provisional Agenda**





## The objective

The utilization of remittances inflows to enhance development in labor-exporting North African member states, confronts three major persistent challenges: (i) the effectiveness of national strategies and policies to channel remittances to development, (ii) the relatively weak financial and institutional infrastructure supporting remittances, and (iii) the lack of sufficient data/information on workers' remittances.

The overall objective of the side event, organized within the context of the African Development Forum, is based on several national studies, to offer a platform for in-depth discussion and exchange of experiences and best practices on how to enhance the impact of remittances in financing for development. This side event intends to help policy makers identify a number of ways to facilitate the flow of remittances through the domestic financial system and by offering an attractive investment environment. The discussions will build upon the results of the recent studies carried out by ECA and ESCWA in the area of workers' remittances..

## The specific objectives

**The specific objectives of the side event are to:**

- (a) present and Discuss the main findings of selected national studies on the impact of remittances in financing for development ;
- (b) exchange on national experiences and best practices on how to facilitate and increase the flow of remittances through the domestic financial system and the investment environment; measures to address regulatory and institutional issues affecting the mobilization of domestic resources in Africa ;
- (c) Deliberate on the major challenges as the effectiveness of national strategies on remittances, the financial and institutional infrastructure supporting remittances, and the lack of sufficient data/information on remittances ;
- (d) Identify priority actions and strategies for increasing the flow and impact of remittances.

## Participants

The side event will bring together key stakeholders including officials from government, central bank, private sector, civil society organizations, researchers, practitioners, development partners and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.

## Format

This side event will be organized in half-day plenary sessions to present the national studies, which will help to set the ground for the discussions on the main challenges and recommendations.



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## Provisional Programme of Work

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09:00-09:30	Registration of participants
09:30-10:00	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome Address</li><li>• Presentation of the event's objectives and Agenda</li></ul>
10:00-10:15	Role of remittances in Development: a New Approach
10:15-10:30	Mobilization and capitalization of the savings from Moroccans living abroad: Experience of the "Groupe de la Banque Populaire
10:30-10:45	Role of banking to promote remittances: Egypt's experience
10:45-11:15	Plenary discussion on the role of the banks in mobilizing remittances
11:15-11:45	Coffee Break
11:45-12:00	Investment promotion and remittances in Tunisia
12:00-12:15	Role of Central bank to promote remittances: Algeria's experience
12:15-12:30	Experience from other African regions on the effect of remittances on the economy
12:30-13:30	Plenary Discussion and adoption of the event's recommendations
13:30-14:00	Closing Session

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